

REMARKS

This document is being submitted on the express direction of Examiner Stright received in a telephone conference therewith initiated by the undersigned on August 29, 2000.

Claim 14 as originally filed in the Preliminary Amendment dated August 25, 1998, included recitations that were by inadvertence inconsistent with page 16, line 18, of the specification as originally filed. This inconsistency has gone unnoticed throughout the entirety of prosecution. In the Amendment "A" dated October 20, 1999, Claim 14 as originally filed was renumbered as Claim 36. In the Notice of Allowability, Claim 36 was allowed among the other claims pending in the above-captioned application.

Accordingly, it is proposed to cancel allowed Claim 36 prior to the issuance of a patent from the above-captioned application.

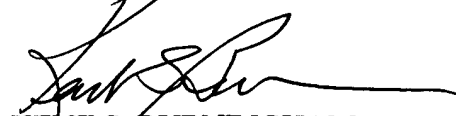
The cancellation of Claim 36 may corresponding require the renumbering of other allowed claims and the alteration of dependencies as appropriate thereto. The undersigned apologizes for any inconvenience occasioned in this regard.

Nonetheless, the proposed cancellation of allowed Claim 36 does not enter new matter or raise new issues, and the cancellation of allowed Claim 36 is accordingly respectfully requested.

In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt issuance of a patent from the above-captioned application, and if the impediment might be overcome by discussion, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned at either of the telephone numbers presented below.

DATED this 30th day of August, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,



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